Nor Flood Nor Fire Will
Stop Us Till We've Won

Nippon Times

Smite Until Our Foes Bend
On Their Knees

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NIPPON FLIERS BOMB CACHAR, MANIPUR ASSAM ANNOUNCES

Mountbatten Troops Thrown Into Confusion as Japanese Continue Their Advance

Domei

LISBON, March 24.—Japanese Air Units bombed various places in Cachar and Manipur, the Assam Provincial Government announced today, according to a dispatch from Shillong reaching here.

53 Enemy Planes Blasted

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN BURMA, March 25.—The Wild Eagles of the Imperial Japanese Air Force have been active in the skies over the Burma-India border area in the face of the continued furtive movements of the enemy air force since the early part of March. In eight days since March 10, they shot down a total of 31 enemy planes (of which five unconfirmed), besides setting ablaze 13 machines and damaging nine others.

In the same period, the Japanese loss was only one plane self-blasted, two not yet returned and three damaged.

Foe Admits Setbacks

Domei

LISBON, March 23.—Smashing the anti-Axis forces at every point, the Imperial Japanese troops, which have been effecting an unprecedented offensive operation on the entire front from Arakan to the Fukawng valley in the Burma-India border area, appear to be continuing their advance. It is reported that troops under the command of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, which were seriously hit in the western part of the Chindwin River, have been thrown into big confusion on the firing lines.

According to a dispatch by a UP correspondent in New Delhi, units of the Indian army in the Somhra sector near the northwestern border of Burma are now struggling to prevent the advance of the Japanese Forces in a desperate effort to save the critical situation of the troops of Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Deputy Commander of the anti-Axis forces in southeastern Asia, now operating in the Fukawng valley, as the result of the penetration of the Japanese troops into Indian territory.

Continuing, the same UP dispatch said that the 21st Division of the Chungking army, planning to make a southward drive from the Fukawng valley, met the severest counter-attacks of the Japanese Forces ever since the commencement of the Burma operation at a point southeast of Janbubum, northeast of Shadouzap. At present furious battle is raging along the upper stream in the Mogaung valley, the UP report stated.

Concerning the war situation in the central part of the Burma-India border area, the military observers in New Delhi opined that the Japanese Forces are aiming to occupy Manipur, the important supply base of the anti-Axis forces. They said that if Manipur falls into the Japanese hands, they will gain a pivotal base for the attack on Assam in the forthcoming dry season.

Worrying about the development of the situation, the same quarters stated that the Japanese Forces in their Assam assault will try to cut off the northeastern Indian railway, the only connecting line between the troops of Lieutenant-General Stilwell and the anti-Axis army in the central portion of the Burma-India border area.

ERUPTION WORRIES ENEMY

Fears Vesuvius May Throw Off Volcanic Cones

23

Special

LISBON, March 23.—Vast clouds of volcanic ash hurled from Vesuvius threw the city of Bari, 120 miles away, into darkness at 9:30 a.m. today, says a dispatch from Naples.

Electric lights had to be turned on and chickens, believing that night had come, went to roost.

The dispatch said that lava was still moving down the slopes, and that AMGOT officials were now concerned with the possibility of the volcanic cones being blown off by the terrific heat.

Foe on Bougainville Heavily Bombarded By Japanese Forces

Domei

LISBON, March 24.—The Japanese had been carrying out a terrific bombardment of the American bridgehead on Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville, for the last three days, according to a statement made today by a spokesman of the United States South Pacific Fleet Headquarters under the command of Admiral William F. Halsey. The spokesman said: "For the last three days the Japanese have been bombarding the bridgehead of the American forces on Empress Augusta Bay and a fierce fighting is now continuing between the patrol forces."

NIPPON UNITS CRUSH TOROKINA ATTACKS

All Enemy Attempts Against Cape Fail in Face of Stone-Wall Defense of Japanese

Cape Torokina, where the Imperial Japanese Forces recently launched an attack against an enemy force of about one division and a half holding a semi-permanent position and capturing a part of the base as announced in an Imperial Headquarters' communique on March 24, has been the scene of constant fighting ever since November 1, 1943 when the enemy troops first landed in the vicinity of the Cape.

An outline of the progress of the war around Cape Torokina is as follows:

Enemy forces effected a landing in the neighborhood of Cape Torokina with more than 20 transports under the protection of air forces, on November 1. The Imperial Japanese Forces, though numerically inferior, resisted strongly for several days, and inflicted serious damages on the enemy after which our forces succeeded in landing at a point four kilometers north of Cape Torokina.

Cape Torokina was attacked from two sides, and on November 8, our forces on the south and the north commenced general offensive against the enemy and, in the hand-to-hand fighting that followed, succeeded in driving the enemy to the coast. However our offensive was stopped by the enemy's heavy artillery fire from Bruata Island, off Cape Torokina. Thus, on November 10, our forces were concentrated on the left bank of the Sawa River, east of Cape Torokina.

Night Raids Made

During the middle part of November 1943 the enemy advanced to the right bank of the Sawa River and since then the enemy strength was gradually increased until it finally reached about one division. Our officers and men made surprise attacks on the enemy position at night with good effect. As the enemy artillery became fierce, however, our casualties steadily rose. Yet the fighting spirit of our units was high. Several times we met the enemy advancing with tanks to the Pepa River area but we continued fighting desperately to hold our position although ammunition gave out.

Toward the latter part of November the enemy attempted to expand its occupied area by landing on Klaiyo, 40 kilometers northwest of Cape Torokina, on November 24, and on Napoi on November 29, but our forces at these respective points met them valiantly, and pushed back the enemy that landed at Klaiyo to the coast, making them retreat finally to the sandy delta at the mouth of the Taube River.

Our units also met the enemy that landed at Napoi and upon the

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 4)

ANTI-AXIS IS SHAKEN HEAVILY BY ADVANCE ON INDIAN TERRITORY

Enemy Journals Give Prominence to News—Political Effect Feared by British

Special

LISBON, March 24.—The advance into India of the Japanese Forces in support of the Indian National Army has heavily shaken the anti-Axis countries, according to reports available here. New York newspapers splashed the report of the Japanese drive into India on their front pages, attesting to the importance they placed on the news. Hanson Baldwin, military commentator of the New York Times, described the Japanese operations as "cleverly timed and strategically and politically sound" and said the Japanese "have apparently made considerable progress."

Major George Fielding Eliot, military commentator of the New York Herald Tribune, on the other hand wishfully declared, "There seems no reason to suppose that the Japanese advance cannot be checked by the Anglo-Indian troops already in that area." Meanwhile, a London dispatch revealed that the New Delhi correspondent of the Daily Express said that the Japanese advance west of the Chindwin River actually was developing into a real danger for the British position in India. The correspondent pointed out that anti-Axis air bases in Asia, which were important for the transport of supplies to China, were likewise menaced.

A New York dispatch revealed that the National Broadcasting Company's news analyst, W. W. Chaplin, expressed fear that the anti-Axis allies might be facing a second "Singapore."

The Associated Press correspondent in Chungking, in the meantime, reported that although Chungking official quarters kept silent there was no mistaking the shock created in Chungking by the penetration of the Japanese troops into India.

Political Effect Feared

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 24.—Along with a profound strategic effect, a far-reaching political effect is feared in British Government and private circles of the advance begun by the Indian National Army, commanded by Subhas Chandra Bose and supported by the Japanese Army, across the Burma border into India, according to information reaching here from London.

A war correspondent of The Daily Express reports: "A real danger to India is steadily developing from the advance of the Japanese Army west of the Chindwin River. The anti-Axis air bases in eastern India which are essential as the starting points of the supply route to Chungking are now similarly threatened."

An influential paper of Edinburgh, the Scotsman, also points out the seriousness of the situation in its editorial for today:

"The British authorities call the Japanese advance across the Chindwin River a counter-offensive but there is no question that the Japanese advance is at the same time prompted by a political motive, as the Japanese Prime Minister General Tojo acknowledges. Even if the Japanese offensive might not constitute a serious menace to India, it is clear that quick and effective measures are called for."

British Tanks Are Antiquated and Inferior To German Types, Declares Daily Mail

Special

LISBON, March 24.—The Daily Mail on Friday joined in criticizing the Government asserting that the British tank was unsatisfactory, it is reported from London. It has been learned, meanwhile, that the Lower House will hold a secret meeting to discuss the assertions made by the critics.

The Daily Mail asserts that since the end of the last war Britain had not built tanks comparable to the German tanks. It points out that Churchill tanks which had been ordered after Dunkirk and had been delivered two years later left a poor impression at Dieppe. The paper also said that three other tanks of the Mathilda, Valentine and Crusader types represented pre-war models and were considerably out of date. Their inferiority, the paper asserted, led to repeated defeats in North Africa, where the turning point was brought about only by the appearance of the American Sherman tanks. In Italy, the paper further pointed out, that the Sherman tanks still played the decisive role.

In conclusion the Daily Mail demanded complete reorganization of the British production program, speed to be sacrificed in favor of improved armor plating and armament.

Captain Ozaki Cited for Bravery Shown in Air Clash in China Area

Met Heroic Death by Dashing Plane Against Foe In Move to Save Comrade; Posthumously Receives Two-Rank Promotion

Captain Nakakazu Ozaki, a squadron commander of a fighter unit in the China area, posthumously received a two-rank promotion to lieutenant-colonel for heroic action in thrusting into the midst of enemy planes in spite of his own machine having been hit by a shell in a vital part during an attack on the Suichwan airdrome on December 27, 1943, in order to aid a comrade plane in danger, dashing his plane against an enemy plane and going down together, it was announced at 4 p.m. Saturday.

It was also announced that he was cited on February 8 this year by the Commander-in-Chief of the Expeditionary Forces in China and that the matter has been brought to the august knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor.

"Citation:

"Captain Nakakazu Ozaki, commander of a squadron of the Sakagawa Unit:

"The above, since April, 1943, fulfilled the most difficult duties on his own initiative in the attacks on Chungking, Kunming and Kweilin and engagements at important points in that neighborhood as commander of a squadron of a fighter unit in the China area, maintaining perfect control of his unit, manifesting efficient leadership over his subordinates and achieving brilliant successes by dint of supero strategy and gallant fighting.

"The flight squadron commanded by the captain shot down in little over six months more than 50 planes, 19 of which were accounted for by the captain himself. He displayed truly divine skill in attacking large enemy bombers. By his deep insight into the chances of battle he unerringly seized the right moment to intercept the enemy and in the face of terrific enemy fire, unfailingly sent down plane after plane. Thus, he accounted for six large enemy bombers, or more than half the number of such planes shot down by the unit to which he belonged.

"Past noon on December 27, 1943 he participated in an attack on the Suichwan airdrome by escorting with his fighter squadron the bomber unit dispatched against that enemy base. By close cooperation with the bomber unit, he enabled it to succeed in surprise attacks and to intercept many large enemy bombers. Upon being counter-attacked by a superior force of more than 20 planes, the captain conducted a daring attack and shot down several of the enemy machines, thus completely frustrating the counter-attack.

"During the action, however, his plane was hit by an enemy shell in a vital part and for a time seemed to have slowed down. Upon seeing a comrade plane in danger, he thrust into the midst of the enemy group and dashed his machine against one of the enemy planes, thus dying a heroic death.

"The foregoing record of the captain manifests the superb combat technique and positive, daring and fiery spirit of attack with which he frequently obtained outstanding results. In his last action he gave supreme play to the efficacy of united action between bombers and fighters and a spirit of self-sacrifice, dashing his plane against an enemy machine in an endeavor to go to the aid of his subordinates. Thus, he developed to the full the quintessence of the Imperial Army Fighter Units. His services are of an eminent order that set an example to all fighting men.

"Wherefore, I hereby grant the above this citation and proclaim the fact before the entire Army. February 8, 1944, Shunroku Hata, Commander-in-Chief of the Expeditionary Forces in China."

BRILLIANT SUCCESS GAINED BY GERMANS

Score Effectively in Defense Southeast of Vitebsk—Dniester Fighting Raging

Special

BERLIN, March 24.—A telling defensive success was scored by the German forces on Thursday in the area southeast of Vitebsk where the Soviet forces resumed their break-through attempts with several divisions supported by tanks, according to German war correspondent Colonel Ernst Von Hammer. The correspondent said that though the Soviet forces restricted their offensive to a comparatively narrow area, they did not succeed in advancing beyond the German forefield.

The correspondent said that German grenadiers ironed out a dent made by the Soviet forces on the previous day and that they captured more than a hundred Soviet prisoners and numerous light and heavy infantry weapons in a counter-attack. He said that the heaviness of the fighting could be seen in the fact that one Westphalian division had repulsed within the past few days 27 attacks in company strength, 17 attacks in battalion strength, 23 attacks in regiment strength and seven attacks launched with from one to seven divisions. This group also destroyed 48 Soviet tanks and forced the Soviet forces to leave behind more than 2,000 dead.

Meanwhile, reports from the northern sector of the Eastern front said that only local activity occurred. These reports revealed that the Luftwaffe in a surprise low-level attack hit the Soviet positions in the Pleskau area and silenced an enemy battery there by a direct hit. No other significant air activity took place.

Soviets Attack Crimea

Special

BERLIN, March 24.—A report from the front said that the Soviet forces had begun their attack on the Crimean Peninsular on Thursday with great fierceness. The report said that the Soviet attacks were directed against the Perekop isthmus in the north and against Kerch in the east.

Meanwhile, the center of the fighting on the whole Eastern front remained in the bend east of Tarno-

(Continued on Page 2 Col 5)

ENEMY IN ITALY FAR FROM REACHING AIM

Losses So Heavy Clark Forced To Send New Zealand, Moroccan Troops to Front

Special

LISBON, March 24.—After six weeks of stubborn fighting the Anglo-American troops in Italy are still far from reaching their goal of uniting the armies in the Nettuno beachhead with those on the southern front, writes German war correspondent Carl Praegner. He said that on the southern front at Cassino General Mark Clark had to carry out a frontal attack without flank protection because the surrounding heights were under German control.

The correspondent said that the anti-Axis assumption that the German power of resistance could be broken by air and artillery bombardment proved wrong and that the attackers were driven off each time with heavy losses. He said that the anti-Axis losses were so heavy that Clark has lately been sending only New Zealand and Moroccan troops into the firing line.

Unable to continue their break-through attempts because of their heavy losses, the anti-Axis forces yesterday limited their activity to artillery fire, the correspondent said. German artillery too was active, shelling enemy troop movements, which indicated an early resumption of enemy offensive activity. Several tanks were destroyed by well-placed hits.

The correspondent said that in the Nettuno beachhead heavy rains had turned the area into a sea of mud, making major fighting activity impossible. He said that German troops repulsed enemy shocktroop formations west of the Aprilia-Anzio road and southeast of Cisterna.

Heavy Fighting Continues

Special

LISBON, March 24.—Heavy fighting was reported continuing at Cassino but apparently no significant new developments had taken place. German reports said that fighting yesterday was confined to an exchange of artillery fire and that new anti-Axis troop movements were observed, indicating that a new offensive attempt was in the making.

IMPORTANT SHIFTS IN ARMY PERSONNEL MADE ON SATURDAY

General Fujie Succeeds Doihara as Commander of the Eastern Army

The appointment of General Keisuke Fujie, Commander of the Western Army, as Commander of the Eastern Army succeeding General Kenji Doihara, who has been transferred to a certain important post, was announced by the War Ministry on Saturday.

Lieutenant-General Sadamu Shimomura, who has been in a certain important post in Central China, was appointed Commander of the Western Army to succeed General Fujie, while Lieutenant-General Hikosaburo Hata, Vice-Chief of the Army General Staff, has been ordered to assume the concurrent post of President of the Army Staff College. Also, Lieutenant-General Ichiro Shichida, a member of the Army General Staff, has been made the principal of the Army Science School.

As commander of the Eastern Army, General Doihara made remarkable contributions to strengthening of the defense of Tokyo Metropolis.

General Fujie is an honor graduate of the Army Staff College. Generals Tomoyuki Yamashita, Korechika Anami and Naosaburo Okabe are among his classmates. At the time of the last World War, he was in France, studying military affairs. He participated in the Disarmament Conference at Geneva and is an outstanding authority on European affairs. He was appointed Gendarmerie Commandant in the Kwantung Army in 1937 and is well versed with military police administration. Participating in the China Affair as an Army Corps Commander, he distinguished himself in the Hsuchow and Wuhan campaigns. He was appointed Commander of the Western Army in April, 1941, when he was President of the Army Staff College and in February, 1943, was promoted to full General.

Graduate of the Army Staff College, Lieutenant-General Shimomura went to France in 1919 and studied at the Paris Military Staff College. He was active in Geneva at the time when Japan seceded from the League of Nations. After assuming the presidency of the Army Staff College, Lieutenant-General Shimomura became an Army Corps Commander and rendered distinguished services in the Five Lakes and Chekiang-Kiangsu campaigns. Lieutenant-Generals Heitaro Kimura, Takashi Sakai and Shojiro Iida are among his classmates.

TO CURB F.D.R.'S AUTHORITY

Move Started to Keep Watch-Dog Power Over President

Special

LISBON, March 24.—Backed by the U.S. Foreign Affairs Committee, a move has been started in the House of Representatives, Thursday, to give Congress watch-dog-power over the President in the final settlement of Lend-Lease contracts, it is reported from Washington.

This authority was written into the bill extending President Roosevelt's Lend-Lease program for another year from June 13. The revised bill is to be reviewed by the entire House.

Hoare Postpones Departure

Special

MADRID, March 24.—For unknown reasons Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Madrid, who was scheduled to leave ten days ago for London, again postponed his departure.

Matsumoto Becomes Nippon Times Head Succeeding Toshi Go

Tadao Matsumoto, former Parliamentary Foreign Vice-Minister and at present a member of the House of Representatives and a member of the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry Committee, on Saturday assumed the presidency of the Nippon Times, Ltd., succeeding Toshi Go whose term of office has expired. Former President Go submitted his resignation at a general meeting of the Nippon Times shareholders held at 2 p.m. the same day. Mr. Matsumoto was then elected director and was recommended for presidency by mutual vote at the meeting of the board of directors, whereupon he accepted the post.

BOSE'S STATEMENT SEEN VITAL BY ABC

Is Outspoken Offensive Idea Based on Firm Nippon Position, Madrid Paper Says

Special

[illegible]BON, March 23.—The military correspondent of the Madrid newspaper, ABC, described the statement by Subhas Chandra Bose, Commander-in-Chief of the Indian National Army, that the present battles in Burma were forerunners of victories which would lead to Delhi as of great importance in connection with the "vast strategical problems of that war theater because it is the expression of an outspoken offensive idea based on the firm and solid position of the Japanese Forces in Burma," according to a Madrid dispatch.

Meanwhile, a dispatch from Stockholm said that well-informed quarters there attached great significance to the announcement by Subhas Chandra Bose of the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Chatterji as Governor of Liberated Indian Territories. Contrasting the Anglo-American tactics of "liberation" with the Japanese policy clarified by Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, these quarters recalled that when the Anglo-Americans landed in Italy under the pretext of liberating the Italian people they went about the task by setting up their own military administration in occupied Italian territory. They said that for that reason the Anglo-Americans were now reaping the harvest of hate they sowed in Italy, North Africa and the Near Eastern countries.

One observer declared "Love begets love. Goodwill begets goodwill. The high moral code of Japan will find befitting response from the Indian people. Japan fights for justice and righteousness. Japan's ideal of India for the Indians will certainly move India's millions. The Netaji's proclamation and Prime Minister Tojo's declaration will echo and reecho throughout India, transcending the most rigorous of British censorship, and the Indo-Japanese comradeship in arms created thereby will be the cornerstone of Indian freedom and common Indo-Japanese victory.

British Police Killed

Special

LISBON, March 24.—Three British constables of the Palestine police force were killed and three seriously injured when a heavy explosion wrecked the Criminal Investigation Department headquarters on Thursday, a report from Haifa disclosed. The explosion smashed windows over a wide radius and other casualties have been reported.

Roosevelt Angry at Congressmen's Views That United States Has No Foreign Policy

Special

STOCKHOLM, March 24.—President Franklin Roosevelt who had remained away from his desk for the past four days on account of a cold in the head, appeared displeased over the comments of Congressmen and the press that the United States lacked a foreign policy, according to a Washington dispatch.

Roosevelt remarked to reporters that he had quite a bit to offer on foreign policy and spoke sarcastically of those who had asserted that the United States lacked such a policy.

Meanwhile, at the State Department, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, held a two-hour meeting with 24 first term Republican Congressmen who had demanded a clarification of United States foreign policy.

After the meeting, the Republicans, who asked that their names be withheld, said that Hull had informed them that he took to Moscow a specific plan for the future of Germany as specific as the United States' declaration of reducing Japan to a third rate power but that the British and Soviets were apparently not ready to discuss the plan.

TOJO INFORMS DIET NOW IS OPPORTUNITY TO HIT ENEMY HARD

Avers U.S. and Britain in Mad Frenzy to End War; 84th Session Closes

The United States and Britain in their mad frenzy to decide the issue of war are offering a most favorable opportunity for Japan, in concert with Germany, to deal them smashing blows in the East and West, Prime Minister Hideki Tojo stated Saturday on the occasion of the termination of the 84th session of the Diet.

Hoping that the people under an unshakable conviction of victory will bend their total strength upon the task of fulfilling the needs of warfare by surmounting all the difficulties in the way, the Prime Minister said:

"The 84th session of the Diet was held at a most momentous stage of the war and the Government presented to it budgetary estimates and legislative bills which are essential for coping with the stringent situation. Both the House of Peers and the House of Representatives, fully responding to the demands of the times, have expedited deliberations on the vital measures and discharged their function with creditable efficiency. This is a matter for deep congratulation.

Resolute Determination Shown

"The irrevocable determination of the Empire to fight through the War of Greater East Asia and the fiery spirit of the people that nothing can quench have been most clearly expressed through the session of the Diet just ended. At the same time, we find the various nations of Greater East Asia consolidating their unity and fighting valiantly and splendidly for the construction of a new order in Greater East Asia. The Empire in concert with Germany which has renovated its war structure and is about to turn to the offensive, is waiting for the moment to strike, discerning in the mad frenzy of the United States and Britain to stage a counter-offensive a most favorable opportunity for dealing crushing blows upon them in the East and West.

"On the part of the Government, it will enforce without delay the various budgetary estimates and legislative bills approved by the Diet and carry out various necessary measures with the utmost vigor, so that the fighting strength of the nation may be epochally increased, the living of the people assured and a break-through made to the final victory in spite of all hardships incidental to a decisive war.

"At such a time, I feel reassured to find the 100,000,000 people of this country striving with courage and fortitude in their respective fields of work to increase the fighting strength of the nation and to manifest truly Japanese ways of thought and action. Against an enemy depending on sheer weight of volume to carry the day, we must set equally great volume of materials to destroy him. Thus, rapid supply of the necessary materials to increase our fighting strength is absolutely needed. For this the whole-hearted efforts of the 100,000,000 Japanese are essential so that the officers and men at the front may exercise their skill and prowess to the fullest extent."

Session Closes

The 84th regular session of the Imperial Diet, which dealt with the measures necessary to carry on the War of Greater East Asia during the coming fiscal year and demonstrated to the entire world the unshakable confidence of the nation in its ability to bring the war to a conclusively victorious termination, was brought to a formal close on Saturday by the reading of an Imperial Message. The closing ceremony was held in the Chamber of the House of Peers at 11 a.m. with the members of both Houses of the Diet attending.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo, members of the Cabinet, President Count Yorinaga Matsudaira and Vice-President Marquis Yukitada Sasaki of the House of Peers, Speaker Tadahiko Okada and Vice-Speaker Sakusaburo Uchigasaki, of the House of Representatives, and members of both Houses assembled at the House of Peers, at 10:50 a.m. The ceremony that followed consisted in the reading of an Imperial Message closing the session. The Message was read by Prime Minister Tojo. When he finished, President Matsudaira of the House of Peers received from him the scroll containing

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 3)

24

Press Comments

Saturday, March 25

FINE OPPORTUNITY FOR INDEPENDENCE OF ALL INDIA

ASAHI—The Japanese Army in the Burma area, giving support to the Indian National Army, already in the middle part of March broke through the central Indo-Burmese border and entered India, as announced by the Imperial Headquarters. According to the military authorities on the spot, the immediate aim of the advance is to destroy the hotbed of enemy agitations in Eastern India for counter-offensive operations. Thus, with the success of the present campaign, the enemy's plans to wrest back Burma and reopen the aid-Chiang route have been completely frustrated. If in addition to this the various effects, tangible and intangible, of such a campaign are considered, it takes on an incalculable significance. Thus it would not be an overstatement to say that the campaign is one that should be allotted a special page in the history of Greater East Asia.

Frankly speaking, before the War of Greater East Asia began, no one would have ever imagined that the Japanese would advance into India. Now it has become a reality. On our part, we have perfect confidence in the strength of our own arms, but we are sure that the Indian people, who had never dreamt that an army organized by their own compatriots would move into India against their British oppressors, have been thrilled to see such an army materializing before their eyes.

The Indian people, who have been oppressed by the British for 177 years since Robert Clive became governor of Bengal in 1767, have never once really given up hope of gaining independence. They were compelled to resort to civil disobedience because they had no arms. Year after year their anti-British sentiments have mounted and it is to be expected, now that the Indian National Army is within its borders, that the spirit of revolt will burn with redoubled ferocity throughout the country.

Driving out of the British from India will mean not only the independence of India but a long way toward the overthrow of British world domination and liberation of East Asia as a whole. Consequently, we hope that the Indian people will rise in response to the stirring advance of the Indian National Army supported by crack units of the Japanese Army.

WAY THAT INDIAN PEOPLE SHOULD TAKE

TOKYO SHIMBUN—The high-spirited and well-equipped Indian National Army in its advance upon Delhi has, with the support of the Japanese Army, broken through the Indo-Burmese border and set foot on Indian soil.

The history of India to date has been a most miserable and woeful tale of cruel British tyranny, including the massacre at Amritsar, or frightful poverty, famine, oppression and exploitation, punctuated with sanguinary outbreaks for independence. Not even a Dominion status has been accorded India by the arrogant British. Defeated both on the European and Asiatic fronts, Britain now is intent on tiding over the grave crisis by a ruthless policy of exploiting the resources of India for the support of the tottering British Empire. Thus the sacred banner of Indian freedom that has already been hoisted over the state of Assam under the lead of Subhas Chandra Bose is bound to form a fatal wedge in the British defense by splitting up the Indian front, something the British fear above all.

Last year the British Government dismissed Lord Linlithgow and appointed Field-Marshal Archibald Wavell as the new Viceroy of India, hoping that he would show his mettle in suppressing the anti-British movement in India with an iron hand, inasmuch as it was growing out of bounds under the stimulus of the War of Greater East Asia. By a ruthless exercise of the National Defense Act, Wavell in disregard of the terrible famine stalking India, sought only to crush the rising anti-British movement and to make the Indians serve the British cause to the last drop of their blood. But the great tide of liberation of the peoples in Greater East Asia could not be stemmed by the threats or exercise of force on the part of Britain. It is a most significant fact that now, in a corner of India, which the British rely upon as their last stronghold in East Asia, a page of Indian independence has been opened by the hand of the Indians themselves.

In inaugurating the armed struggle in East Asia for the independence of India, the Netaj had pointed out the frauds perpetrated by the United States and Britain and declared that the independence of India can only be achieved through sacrifices in blood on the part of the Indian people. The present Anglo-American policy in Europe of sacrificing the minor nations whose protection they had vowed, is turning the Atlantic Charter into a piece of scrap paper and exposing to full view the real nature of these two nations. The British promises to India in regard to post-war benefits are all of a piece with their consistent policy of deceit and swindle.

The nature of the Atlantic Charter can most clearly be viewed in contrast with the Greater East Asia Declaration in accordance with the tenets of which Burma and the Philippines have become independent nations and the Provisional Government of Azad Hind has emerged and the literature of the peoples is progressing at a steady tempo.

On the other hand, in view of the heroic advance being made by the Indian National Army in accordance with Mr. Bose's declaration that Indian independence can only be won by the blood sacrifices of the Indians themselves, it is clear what steps the Indian people should take for the achievement of their long-cherished goal. The key to success or failure may now be considered to lie entirely with the people of India.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

March 24

At the eastern and northern front of the Crimea, as well as at the lower reaches of the Bug in the Ukraine, several Soviet thrusts were frustrated. Between the middle reaches of the Bug and the Dniester, as well as in the Proskurov and Tarnopol areas, the bitter defensive battle against powerful Soviet forces is continuing.

Successful German attacks in the Brody area destroyed several Soviet battalions and gun batteries, as well as a number of tanks.

Southeast of Vitebsk the Soviets yesterday continued their unsuccessful attempts to break through the Reich lines.

Local fighting activity only is reported from the other areas on the Eastern Front.

On account of his heavy losses, tinue his attacks against Cassino.

Early yesterday morning, German bombers attacked the enemy base on Lissa Island on the Adriatic coast. Besides blasting harbor facilities, the Reich planes severely damaged eight cargo vessels in the port.

American bomber formations yesterday attacked localities in northwest and central Germany. Reich anti-aircraft guns accounted for 57 enemy warplanes, including 44 four-engined bombers. Anti-Axis planes appeared over northwest and southwest Germany last night.

The Luftwaffe carried out another successful raid on the city districts of London yesterday.

Meanwhile, German escort vessels shot down five of the 14 planes which raided a convoy off the northwestern coast of Norway. The enemy attack was a complete failure.

FASCIST ARMY FOUNDING CELEBRATED IN N. ITALY

Special

MILAN, March 24.—The 25th anniversary of the founding of the Fascist fighting organization was solemnly commemorated on Thursday over entire northern Italy. Big demonstrations took place at Padua, Florence, Venice, and Turin.

At Venice, the Minister of Public Education, Dr. Mezzasoma, declared that the 25th anniversary was being celebrated at a time when the first formation of the Fascist Republican Army was being employed on the Nettuno Front and also when the first Italian motor torpedo boats and squadrons of the Italian air force were engaged on the fighting front. As in 1919, Dr. Mezzasoma further declared, the Fascists today are gathered around Il Duce, pledging loyalty and readiness to fight in order to secure for the Italian people greatness and life.

CURTIN GIVES LAST SPEECH

Addresses Parliament Before Leaving for London Conference

24

Special

LISBON, March 24.—Australian Prime Minister John Curtin today gave what is believed to be his farewell address to the members of Parliament before he leaves for London to attend the conference of premiers, a Canberra dispatch disclosed.

Opposition leader Robert Gordon Menzies gave a pledge that during Curtin's absence there would be no political embarrassment at home on matters Curtin was discussing in London which would make the Prime Minister hurry back home. Curtin in his address laid emphasis on the "British genius for compromise."

INDIANS WILL WIN, LAUREL DECLARES

Congratulates Netaj; Recto Says India's Freedom Is Vital for New Order

Special

24

MANILA, March 24.—President Jose P. Laurel today sent a telegram to Subhas Chandra Bose, head of the Provisional Government of Free India, congratulating the Azad Hind Fauj on "its historic entry into India." At the same time, Claro M. Recto, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement to the press hailing the recent great accomplishment of the Indian National Army.

President Laurel's message follows:

"On behalf of the people and Government of the Republic of the Philippines, I wish to congratulate you and the officers and men under your command on the brilliant successes you have achieved fighting for the liberation of your motherland side by side with the Imperial Japanese Army.

"News of the historic entry into India of the vanguard of your army has sent an electric impulse of joy and anticipation through the hearts of the Filipinos who, as you know, fervently share the hope of all liberty-loving peoples everywhere that India may soon free herself from the shackles of British imperialism.

"God grant that you and your men shall not falter until the epic task of liberation is done.

"With the whole-hearted assistance of the Japanese Forces and the devoted cooperation which your countrymen at home will render to you at the appointed hour, we feel certain that you cannot fail."

Foreign Minister Recto, in his statement, said that the historic entry into India of the Azad Hind Army together with the Japanese Forces, "is an occasion for joy and thanksgiving for all freedom-loving peoples throughout the world."

Continuing, he said that "mankind cannot glory in the prerogative of glory while 400,000,000 Indians continue to live in servitude. India must be free if the world of tomorrow is to be different from the world of yesterday—a world that was half slave and half free.

"Inspired by this conviction, the people and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines cannot but show deep interest in the present efforts of the Provisional Government of Free India and the Azad Hind Army to accomplish with the generous help of the Japanese Forces the final liberation of the Indian people."

Pointing out that the Philippines cannot remain unmoved by the great spectacle of the Indian National Army marching on the road to Delhi shoulder to shoulder with the Japanese Forces, Foreign Minister Recto stated: "In a maze of conflicting hopes and fears, of divided loyalties and unreconstructed ideals there, nevertheless, stands the incontrovertible truth which no Indian loyal to the Orient and no lover of freedom anywhere in the world can gainsay or deny, namely, that the independence of India is indispensable to the establishment of the new world order based on peace, liberty and moral justice.

"The present world war shall have been in vain if it does not bring about the liberation of the oppressed and exploited peoples everywhere in the world," he concluded.

Tojo Informs Diet Now Is Opportunity To Hit Enemy Hard

(Continued From Page 1)

the Message.

The ceremony came to a close at 11:05 a.m.

At 11:50 a.m., after the closing ceremony of the Diet, Prime Minister Tojo, other Ministers of State, members of both Houses of the Diet, and various Government delegates were invited to the Imperial Palace for audiences with His Majesty the Emperor which were held at the Main Palace. They remained and had the honor of being entertained with wine and delicacies in the Homei and the Chikusa Halls.

Diet Members Feted

The Government was host to members of both Houses of the Diet and Government delegates at tea which was given at the Prime Minister's official residence at 1:30 p.m. Prime Minister Tojo and other Ministers were present at the function.

U.S. Imports Mexicans

Special

LISBON, March 24.—Reflecting the acute shortage of manpower in the United States, a Baltimore dispatch said that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company had announced yesterday that it plans to transport 1,500 Mexican laborers for maintenance on various lines and also that it expects to use 900 Puerto Ricans.

23

Fiery Fighting Spirit Displayed in Action By Azad Hind Fighters Trained in Shonan

By a Domei Correspondent

SHONAN, March 23.—The fiery fighting spirit of the Indian National Army, marching shoulder to shoulder with the Japanese Forces for the liberation of their motherland, is being amply displayed by the students of the Azad Hind School of Military Training here. The Azad Hind School is the Indian National Army officers' training center.

Thousands of Indians who have been drilled to perfection on the grounds of the school are now at the foremost front, fighting for the liberation of India.

The large number of letters sent to the school by these fighters expresses gratitude for the fine training received and at the same time urge their juniors now in training to exert their utmost efforts.

Most of those receiving training at the Azad Hind School are qualified students ranging from the ages of 16 to 30 years. Trainees hail from various parts of the Southern Regions, including Shonan, Malai, Sumatra, Java and the Philippines.

The course of the training conducted at the school is similar to the rigid military training in Japan with stress laid on martial arts and scientific and spiritual training.

In the morning, military drills and field maneuvers are held, while lectures on the development of fighting spirit are given. In the afternoon, trainees spend time studying Japanese and the Hindustani language as well as political science.

The trainees then undergo another period of military drill and wind up the day by attending classes in scientific studies in the evening.

Under the ordinary training course the students receive two and a half months' training. However, there is also a three to five-month special course.

The graduation ceremony of the Azad Hind School was held yesterday and the graduates will, in the near future, realize the fulfillment of their desires—to join their brothers-in-arms at the front.

Meanwhile, those still in training here will eagerly await each bit of news of the advance of the Indian National Army and Japanese Forces and feverently hope for the early arrival of the day when they, too, can join the march on to Delhi.

Nippon Units Crush Torokina Attacks

(Continued from Page 1)

completion of their landing operations, rushed into the midst of the enemy ranks, annihilating them. Toward the end of the month, the heavy artillery pieces for which our forces had been eagerly waiting, arrived, and as soon as the sun set, our heavy guns opened fire.

It was in the first part of December that enemy airplanes came daily, blindly bombing without selecting any objectives, but such air-raids never affected the fighting spirit of our officers and men. Organizing scouting parties, our men advanced deep into enemy territory and succeeded in destroying airfields and supply stations. Their resource was really surprising.

Mountain-Top Gained

Middle part of December saw the enemy advance to the Pichiya Mountain in the upper Sawa River region, but our units opened a counter-attack and after fierce fighting in the mountainous districts, gained control of one section of the mountain. Then taking advantage of the moonlight, our units rushed into the enemy positions and succeeded in gaining the top of the mountain.

The enemy then attempted to capture the Hinaya Mountain which overlooks Cape Torokina as they thought the position important, but each time an attempt was made, we managed to draw the enemy close enough to annihilate them. During the period of more than 40 days since the landing of the enemy, our forces only permitted them to advance eight kilometers, while the damage inflicted on the enemy totalled more than 1,400 killed.

Toward the latter part of December the enemy finally gave up the desire of gaining the Pichiya Mountain by land fighting and withdrew. But their artillery continued to shell the mountain day and night, turning the whole region into a mass of flame and smoke. Therefore, our forces finally gave up the position and withdrew to the left bank of the Sawa River. During December enemy airplanes that came attacking our positions totalled 13,300, or an average of more than 400 planes a day. This fact alone eloquently reveals the difficulties suffered by our officers and men. However, shelling the enemy airfields with only our few remaining artillery pieces, our units held their positions on the Sawa River.

Enemy Advance Checked

Since January 1944 the enemy built semi-permanent positions on the right bank of the Sawa river as the first line and the Pepa River as the second line with heavy artillery pieces and trench mortars while we held our positions on the left bank of the Sawa River despite the heavy shelling of the enemy's heavy guns and waited for an opportunity to counter-attack.

The enemy attempted to advance to the mouth of the Sawa River several times under the protection of destroyers, airplanes and tanks, but each time they retreated, receiving heavy casualties. In the meanwhile, the enemy completed the building of three airfields in the jungles behind Cape Torokina. At the time of the enemy landing, we intended to attack the enemy from opposite sides by advancing our units northward from Buin but the distance between Buin and Cape Torokina is separated by more than 20 steep peaks that rise more than 2,000 meters and also by 60 big and small rivers. Furthermore, the entire district is covered with dense jungle and lakes. Thus, how hard our forces might try, the longest march we could make in one day is about four kilometers. Even in the neighborhood of Augusta Bay movement of troops was very difficult. These facts reveal how difficult were our operations in opening the offensive against the enemy. But recent results amply attest to the real strength of our forces.

Brilliant Success Gained by Germans

(Continued From Page 1)

pol-Proskurov-Shmerinka and at the Soviet spearhead advancing toward the Dniester. Considerable Soviet pressure was reported being exerted, with the Soviet forces attempting to move southward from Tarnopol. Reports said that furious defensive fighting was raging between the central Ukrainian Bug and the Dniester.

Reports said that in the area of Soroka on that Dniester, German and Rumanian troops were engaged in heavy fighting against advancing Soviet formations. In the area of Brody, the German forces carried out a successful counter-attack. Northwest of Nevel the Soviet forces again attacked but were repulsed. The third battle for Vitebsk, in the meantime, continued with unabated ferocity. The Soviet forces were attempting to break through the German defenses southeast of the town but were being repulsed. Only local fighting was reported from the other sectors of the Eastern front.

Tsushima Off for Hsinking

Special

PEKING, March 24.—Juichi Tsushima, President of the North China Development Company, left here this morning for Hsinking where he will confer with the Manchoukuo Government authorities as well as the officials of the Manchuria Heavy Industrial Development Corporation to promote further the interchange of resources and materials between North China and Manchoukuo.

STATE OF CONFUSION SEEN IN CHUNGKING

Pandemonium Caused by Defeats Suffered by Anti-Axis On Indo-Burma Front

Domei

CANTON, March 24.—Chungking is in a state of division and confusion as a consequence of the defeats incurred by the anti-Axis forces on the Indo-Burma front.

It was after much hesitation and with extreme reluctance that Chungking, while clinging to the last hope of a re-opening of the Burma Route, acquiesced in the employment of the troops it maintains in India and the labor requisitioned by it in areas under its jurisdiction on the project of constructing the Ledo route between India and China evolved by Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Deputy Commander of the Anti-Axis Forces in Southeast Asia.

The British-Indian army and not just the Chungking forces in the Fukawng River valley have been beaten and crushed by the Japanese Forces to an extent that has necessitated a suspension of the construction of the Ledo route until after the rainy season which will set in in the region at an early date as has been clearly stated by Lieutenant-General Stilwell himself. The general war situation has of late made fresh developments as the Japanese Forces have assumed the offensive in the regions of the central Indo-Burma border. The further thrust of the Japanese is rapidly becoming a serious threat to Chungking. There are the crack units of the Japanese Army already on the other side of the Chindwin River. Once they have come close to the border, nothing but a mountain or two will be separating them from the Indian province of Assam. This province then will be exposed to the danger of being cut off one part from the other.

Now Assam is of vital importance to Chungking in relation to the other Indian provinces. The entire province forms an intermediate base between Chungking and India in the aerial transportation of material aid bound for Chungking, the only remaining means of transportation between India and China. It is from this province that the projected Ledo route will start. It will be seen that the growing pressure to which the province is subjected by the Japanese Forces means a tremendous increase in the threat to the air route traversed by goods bound for Chungking from its allies.

The advance of the Japanese Forces to India from which a narrow strip of land and a mountain or two are separating them is creating a situation which before long will find Chungking driven to give up all hope of seeing a continuance of the function of the sole route by which outside aid comes to Chungking which is essential to its existence. The turn anticipated in the war situation in the regions of the Indo-Burma border will act on Chungking in a manner which is sure to produce a tremendous demoralizing influence on Chungking.

Reich-Rumanian Body On Culture Concludes Salzburg Convention

Special

LISBON, March 24.—The German-Rumanian Cultural Committee have concluded their convention in Salzburg which was held from March 21 to 23, it is reported from Berlin. This committee was established following agreement between the two countries on cultural cooperation concluded on November 7, 1942. The convention gave expression to German-Rumanian friendship and complete agreement on all questions was established.

GERMANS HAIL ADVANCE OF AZAD HIND FIGHTERS

Stress Fact That Foe's Drive Has Been Smashed; Laud Indians' Determination

Domei

BERLIN, March 22.—The report that the Indian National Army under Netaj Subhas Chandra Bose has crossed the Indo-Burmese border in cooperation with the Japanese Forces has been received in Berlin with the greatest of interest.

This news was especially welcomed in Berlin where Mr. Bose had stayed for sometime working for Indian independence and where he made many friends. It is hoped that the Azad Hind Fauj's operations will yield further brilliant results.

Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's offensive which was so loudly proclaimed in advance, has now been smashed. The devastating defeat of the British on the Arakan front was followed by their retreat in the Chindwin River area.

This fact alone, it is stressed in Berlin, reveals the determined way in which the Indians are fighting for the liberation of their country. They are now deploying for an attack across the border whilst the British, on the other side, are apparently meeting with increasing Indian opposition.

24

Swiss Territory Violated

Special

BERNE, March 24.—It was officially announced here today that Swiss air sovereignty was again violated several times today by foreign airplanes of unknown nationality flying across Sanct Maria Scosaplana, Sanct Gallen Wald Pontresina, Lauffen Asrau Langenthal Saignelegier and Pruntrut Bonfel. Air raid warnings were sounded in these areas.

Yorkshire Strike Spreads

Special

LISBON, March 24.—The South Yorkshire coal strike which has spread to 28 pits, involving [illegible],000 miners who have staged a walkout, does not seem likely to be settled until next Monday at the earliest when wage discussions will take place.

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YASUKUNI RITES SET FOR WAR ORPHANS

Her Majesty the Empress Graciously Grants Gifts to Children of Bereaved Families

On "War Orphans' Day" on Monday, the war orphans of Tokyo will be given an opportunity to worship the spirits of their hero fathers at the Yasukuni Shrine, according to the details of the program announced on Friday by the Tokyo Branch of the Military Relief Association.

A total of 267 children from Tokyo Metropolis, including the three Tama districts, have been selected for participation in the sixth war orphans' Yasukuni Shrine worship rites. The children will gather at the Shokoshorei Hall at 9 a.m. today and will be accommodated at the Surugadai Hotel. They will then be given instructions and rehearse the rite proceedings for Monday.

This morning the children will pay their respects at the plaza of the Imperial Palace and then assemble at the Hibiya Public Hall to attend the presentation of gifts graciously given by Her Majesty the Empress. At the Imperial Gift presentation ceremonies, 1,500 children, representing all the children in the Metropolis will also be present.

The rites conducted by the Tokyo Branch of the Military Relief Association will immediately follow at the Hibiya Hall at 10:20 a.m. Then at 3:00 p.m. the children will be permitted to worship at the Yasukuni Shrine.

The schedule for Tuesday includes worship at the Meiji Shrine and the disbanding ceremonies, which will take place at 2:00 p.m. in the afternoon.

The gifts to be presented to the children will comprise fountain pens from the Governor of Tokyo Metropolis, furoshikis with the Yasukuni Shrine torii design and the bereaved family badge from the Military Relief Association, diaries from the War Ministry and paper weights from the Navy Ministry.

GERMAN, JAPANESE LADIES HOLD FRIENDLY MEETING

Attended by Mrs. Stahmer, Mrs. Tojo and Wives of Other High Officials

Attended by some 150 German and Japanese women, a meeting of German and Japanese women was held at the Japan-German Cultural Institute at Kudan on Friday afternoon.

Among those present were Mrs. Stahmer, wife of H. G. Stahmer, German Ambassador to Japan, Mrs. Katsuko Tojo, wife of General Hideki Tojo, Prime Minister of Japan, Mrs. Boltze, wife of Dr. Erich Boltze, German Minister to Japan, Mrs. Amau, wife of Eiji Amau, President of the Board of Information, Mrs. Togo, wife of Shigenori Togo, former Foreign Minister, Mrs. Hoshino, wife of Naoki Hoshino, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, Mrs. Shiratori, wife of Toshio Shiratori, former Japanese Ambassador to Italy, Mrs. Yayoi Yoshioka, President of the Women's Medical College, and Mrs. Hideko Inoue, President of the Nippon Women's College.

As the women chatted with one another, they enjoyed the beauty of the plum-blossoms in the garden. After "koto" and piano performances the meeting closed amid a friendly atmosphere.

MOP-UP DRIVE CONTINUES AGAINST FOE IN SHANTUNG

Japanese Crush Red Force of About 600 Strong; Chiang Remnants Routed

Domei

TSINAN, March 23.—A Japanese Unit on March 6, in cooperation with the Peace Preservation Corps of the National Government of China, smashed Chinese communist remnants of about 600 strong, belonging to the 22nd regiment of the Third Red Army infesting South Hopei, at Changchwang, about 10 kilometers west of Changcheng in western Shantung Province.

The enemy left 93 dead bodies on the battlefield. Our unit seized 76 rifles and large quantities of other war materials.

Meanwhile, another Japanese Unit at dawn on March 16 surprise-raided Chungking remnants at Kuchiatun, midway between Showkwanhsien and Linching in northern Shantung.

In this engagement, the enemy fled, leaving eight bodies behind on the battlefield, while the Japanese Unit seized two rifles, 34 hand grenades and other war materials.

Air Hero Aided Ground Forces In Smashing Drive on Changteh

Captain Ozaki Contributed to Success of Big Operation by Crushing Enemy Air Strength During Raids on Vital Bases

Captain Nakakazu Ozaki, who was cited by the Commander-in-Chief of the Expeditionary Forces in China on February 8 for his supreme act of heroism, manifested when he died to save his comrades, contributed in no small measure toward the success of the Japanese operations last year south of the Yangtze River, including the smashing drive on Changteh. As commander of a squadron in the Sakagawa Unit, he led his men on many a daring raid on enemy air bases, thus frustrating the foe's attempt to hinder the Japanese operations.

Assuming his post in April 9, 1943, Captain Ozaki personally commanded his men during the raids on Lingling and Hengyang, while escorting bombers. He also engaged in battles with the enemy in the neighborhood of Hankow, Pailuchi and Ichang, rendering signal services in the successful achievement of the operations.

With regard to the aerial warfare in the middle part of 1943, that is, from July 1 to October 31, the American air force in China was increased in strength and was based in the neighborhood of Kweilin, Hengyang and Lingling. It was active in the Wuhan district and in South China.

Thereupon, the Japanese Air Units went into action against the foe's air bases in Kiangsi, Hunan and Szechwan provinces. They also carried out a daring campaign against the foe in the interior of Kwangsi and Yunna provinces.

The Unit to which Captain Ozaki belonged, attacked the enemy's air bases in Chungking, Hengyang, Lingling, Suichwan, and Kweilin. It also raided Kunming and engaged in battles with enemy planes in the Wuhan district and in the Canton area.

Thus the unit made an extremely important contribution toward the success of the Japanese campaign in the above-mentioned period. Toward the close of the period, when operations were commenced for the transportation of ground units on the Yangtze River for employment in the campaign against Changteh on which all efforts were to be concentrated, it protected the transports.

The results achieved by the squadron under the Captain during the operations were 33 enemy planes shot down and two others damaged. The Captain himself shot down 14 planes and damaged two. In combats with large-sized planes, he carried out attacks on which he staked his life in spite of the curtain of fire laid down by the enemy. His squadron shot down seven enemy planes and damaged two others. He distinguished himself by shooting down five and damaging two others. Thus he set an example to the men under him and stimulated the morale of the officers and men of the unit.

Above all in meeting and attacking the enemy raiders, the squadron led by Captain Ozaki at a single blow shot down and damaged almost all of the B-24 and P-38 planes possessed by the enemy with the result that they had to abandon their future plans.

With regard to aerial operations in the latter part of 1943, that is from November 1 till December 27, the Japanese Air Units in China, embarked upon an aerial campaign for the destruction of the enemy, operating from Central China with the main force and from the Canton area with the remainder of their strength. They sought enemy planes in the theater of operations against Changteh, and destroyed them. In addition, the main force made a surprise night attack on Hengyang, the enemy's base, and followed it up with repeated attacks on Lingling Suichwan, and Hengyang. In the middle part of December, the Units advanced into Kweilin, Suichwan, Liuchow, and Nanning. At the time they attacked the enemy in the neighborhood of Canton.

With the commencement of the operations against Changteh the unit to which Captain Ozaki belonged was in the Wuhan district, where it was destroying the enemy planes. As soon as December came, the Captain, as the commander of a squadron that formed the backbone of his unit, took part in surprise attacks on Enshih, Hengyang, Lingling, and Suichwan, striking terror into the heart of the enemy, and the contribution made by him toward the progress of ground operations was extremely large. Toward the close of the middle part of December, his unit took part in attacks on Kweiling and Suichwan and in meeting and attacking the enemy in fierce and daring fights in the neighborhood of Canton. He always scored great war results.

On December 27, the unit to which the Captain belonged was ordered to carry out a surprise attack with a bomber unit, the order being based on a judgment that an enemy fighter and bomber unit was planning to move to Suichwan the enemy's easternmost base.

The Captain, at the head of a squadron, undertook the task of escorting the bomber unit which succeeded in blasting many large-sized enemy planes on the ground. Immediately after the bombing raid, his squadron was attacked by a formation of more than 21 enemy planes which were in a superior position. The Japanese attacked the enemy daringly although the foe was numerically superior. Captain Ozaki fought resolutely and frustrated the enemy's attack on the Japanese bombers.

At the outset of this battle Captain Ozaki shot down and damaged several enemy planes. But his machine was hit by bullets in a vital part and lost its speed for a while. Then he discovered that one of the Japanese planes was exposed to danger. In order to rescue his comrade he hurled himself at one of the many enemy planes which were attacking the Japanese machine, and thus made his name imperishable in history. He was 24 years old when he blasted himself and his machine against the foe, meeting a glorious death at a point about 10 kilometers southwest of Suichwan.

During the aerial operations of this period, the squadron shot down 18 enemy planes and damaged from 10 to 12 others. Captain Ozaki shot down five, including one B-24 and damaged 10 to 12 planes of the same type.

HIRAI TAKES S.M.R. POST

Dr. Kikumatsu Hirai Saturday was appointed vice-president of the South Manchuria Railway Company, succeeding Ojiro Sato, it was announced the same day.

The new vice-president is a graduate of the engineering department of Tokyo Imperial University. Upon graduation he entered the service of the Imperial Railway Board. He served as head of the improvement section, and then of the planning section of the engineering bureau. Then he became director of that bureau. This was the last position he held before his retirement in October 1939 from Government service. The same year he became an adviser to the North China Railway Company. Some years later he became a director of the company.

P.I. WAR EFFORTS NOTED BY MURATA

Says Nation Positively Engaged in Bolstering Defense, Food Structures

Domei

MANILA, March 24.—The Philippine Republic is bearing the ordeal of war with admirable fortitude and is giving wholehearted cooperation to Japan, Shozo Murata, Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines, said in the course of a press conference with Japanese newsmen here today.

"Already half a year has passed since the establishment of the Republic of the Philippines," Mr. Murata reminisced. "The leaders of the Philippine Government have more and more strengthened their determination to throw in their lot with Japan and are cooperating with Japan for the consolidation of the Philippine defense in accordance with the alliance treaty binding the two countries. We are greatly reassured to see the Filipinos giving us assistance through increased production and heightened defense activities.

"The conviction of President Jose P. Laurel that 'there can be no complete independence for the Philippines without Japan's victory' permeates not only the Government but the Filipino public in general. I believe that this idea will continue to penetrate to every part of the national fabric and the Filipinos' cooperation with Japan will increase and intensify with time.

"In regard to the food problem, the Filipinos have begun to make positive efforts, including the use of idle lots for agricultural production on their own initiative. At this rate, the solution of the food problem will not be necessarily difficult.

"The Filipinos have recently grown earnest and sincere in their various undertakings in the thought that they must not fall behind the Japanese. Naturally, there are various difficulties in the path of the new Republic and it would be asking too much to see perfection in a six-month-old Government. It is, therefore, our duty to support and aid the Laurel Government so that the Philippines may turn into a full-fledged independent nation as a member of Greater East Asia."

KOBE INDIANS OBSERVE PROVISIONAL REGIME DAY

Offer Prayer for Fallen Heroes Of Current War and Success Of Azad Hind

The second Provisional Government Day was observed on Tuesday at the Indian Social Society, Kobe, under the auspices of the local branch of the Indian Independence League. A large number of local Indian residents attended the function.

Following the national group rites, a silent prayer was offered for the repose of the souls of the fallen heroes in the War of Greater East Asia and for the success of the Indian National Army which is now fighting in close cooperation with the Imperial Japanese Forces.

The Indian business offices in the city were closed for the day and the tri-color Indian national flags were hoisted over them.

East Asia Round-Up

Tojo Honors Malai Leader

Domei

SHONAN, March 24.—In recognition of her meritorious services, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo has awarded a certificate of honor to Tongku Fatinah Abdullah, local Malai woman leader.

To Boost Farm Output

Domei

MENADO, March 25.—In order to increase farm production through the introduction of modern farming methods in North Celebes, the Menado Agricultural Experimental Station will be opened in Minahassa—a granary of North Celebes—as an affiliate with the Macassar Research Institute.

Improves Workers' Welfare

Special

MANILA, March 25.—In order to improve the welfare of workers, President Jose P. Laurel recently appointed members to the Advisory Board on Labor, who will counsel the Minister of Health and Public Welfare on labor problems.

Ex-Red Troopers to Work

Special

TAIYUAN, March 25.—A graduation ceremony for the second group of 52 former Communist soldiers who have been receiving educational training here was held Thursday. The former Red troopers are slated to work in factories.

Facilitates Food Drive

Domei

MANILA, March 25.—The Malacanan announced Thursday that Rafael R. Alunan, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources has created an Advisory Committee on food production for the purpose of advising and coordinating all activities pertaining to the food-production campaign launched by the Government.

Burma Names Officials

Special

RANGOON, March 25.—The Burmese Government recently appointed governors and police chiefs who will undertake administrative affairs in the three newly-established local districts.

More Post Offices Opened

Special

MANILA, March 25.—In line with the rapidly expanding postal service of the independent Philippines, nine more post officers have been opened in Luzon Province.

Plans Relief Fund

Domei

CANTON, March 25.—The Japanese Residents' Corporation here will shortly establish a Home-Front Relief Fund within the corporation's accounts for the purpose of aiding families of the war-dead and those called to the colors. The initial goal is fixed at ¥1,000,000.

Good Farming Results

Domei

LEGASPI, March 25.—Twelve thousand seven hundred and twenty-two hectares of land were cultivated during the last planting season, the local office of the Bureau of Plant Industry reports. Corn, cavanes and comote were the principal products raised.

REAFFIRM RESOLVE TO WIPE OUT REDS

Army Heads of China, Inner Mongolia Issue Statement On War Aims

Domei

PEKING, March 23.—Firm determination to exert utmost efforts for the extermination of Communist elements in North China and Mengchiang and to forge ahead resolutely for the construction of a New Order in East Asia was expressed in a joint statement issued today by eight Chinese and Inner Mongolian military leaders, including General Pang Ping-hsun, who have been in a conference here of army chiefs in the North China Military District.

The statement which was announced by General Tu Hsi-chun, Commander-in-Chief of the North China Pacification Army read substantially as follows:

"During the period of two years since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, our ally, Japan, with courageous and daring spirit, exerted tremendous efforts for justice and humanity, achieving brilliant exploits unparalleled in history.

"In order to share in the mission of safeguarding East Asia, our country participated in the war and has exerted strenuous endeavors. However, Communist bandits are still causing harm and misery.

"If China is to discharge satisfactorily its mission as the commissary base for Greater East Asia by insuring peace in the rear, it is imperative for us to exert utmost efforts to overcome these difficulties and realize our common objectives.

"At this juncture, we are firmly determined to share life or death with our ally for realizing peace and, in line with our national policy, to endeavor to exterminate Communist elements thereby contributing to the construction of a New Order in East Asia. We hereby declare that we shall be consistent for all time in this resolution of ours."

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Death Notice

I hereby announce that Tomokazu Hori, my father, director of the Publicity Affairs of the Foreign Office and Secretary in the Board of Information, succumbed to illness on March 24th, at 8:50 a.m., acknowledging the many marks of friendship he enjoyed during his life.

Funeral services will take place according to Buddhist Rites at Aoyama Funeral Hall on March 27th, from 1 to 2 p.m.

Kazuo Hori, heir

19 Honchodori 5-chome, Nakano-ku, Tokyo

Toru Shimizu, relative

Shunichi Matsumoto, friend

March 24th, 1944

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PROF. Dr. K. Nakajima, skin and blood disease specialist. English, French and German spoken. Hours: 9-12 a.m., 2-5 p.m., mornings only on Sundays and National Holidays. 1 Ginza-nishi 5-chome. 2nd floor of Taya Store on street car line from Sukiyabashi, a few blocks from Imperial Hotel side entrance. Tel. Ginza 57-0315.

PROF. Dr. S. Miyashita. Eye Specialist. English and German spoken. Hours, 2:30-5 p.m. Weekdays only. Daiichi-Sogo Building, Kyobashi tram crossing. Tel. Kyobashi 56-4464.

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TOKYO, SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 1944

Worse Than a Year Ago

How severely hit the enemy has been by the surging advance of units of the Imperial Japanese Forces in Burma and the Indian National Army across the border into Indian territory is at once seen when one recalls the statement made just a year ago by General Henry Arnold, commander-in-chief of the United States Air Force. In a welcome rally held by a number of pro-Chungking Americans in New York for Madame Chiang Kai-shek, who was then on a begging tour of the United States for more assistance to her husband's regime in its futile resistance against Japan, it will be recalled that General Arnold bluntly admitted that real aid to Chungking and the bombing of the Japanese mainland, the latter so vehemently demanded by the American public and by Chungking's, could not be realized before the Burma Route was reopened and land supply transportation made possible.

There is no question but that the operations of the British-Indian army of the past few weeks against Burma—which have resulted in dismal failure before the valiant fighting of the Imperial Japanese Forces and the troops of the Provisional Government of Free India—had as one of its principal objectives the wresting of the Burma Route from the Japanese. For notwithstanding the attempts by President Roosevelt to discount the importance of this overland "blood transfusion route" to Chungking by claiming that more supplies were now being transported into China by the "hump route" by air from India, the cry has been persistent from the Chiang capital for the reopening of the Burma Route. Even Chungking's chaotic economic situation, what with vicious inflation prevailing with the dearth of commodities, has been attributed to the failure of the anti-Axis forces to reconquer Burma and thereby making possible the resumption of traffic on the Burma Road.

The disappointment over the present absolute failure of the Burma operations led by Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, chief of the enemy's Southeast Asia Command, must be keen indeed to Chungking, but even more so to the American high command. For it means continued powerlessness of the United States 14th Air Force in China under the command of Major-General Claire Chennault. That is readily seen even from General Arnold's statement a year ago in New York that Chungking has not even a drop of gasoline and that therefore all fuel used in China must be supplied by air over the tremendously difficult route from India. And what is more, the very transport planes carrying fuel into China for the American air force, ostensibly in that theater of the war to undertake operations against Japan, must wing their way back to their bases in India on their own gasoline supply. That means that the net sum brought into China is only a limited supply indeed.

It is no wonder then that the American air force in China has been engaged only in guerrilla air raids on Chinese towns and in terror raids on localities in Thailand and French Indo-China. It is no wonder too that Lieutenant-General Joseph Stilwell, commander-in-chief of the American army forces in India, Burma and China, has been complaining of Mountbatten's conduct of the so-called offensive against Burma which President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill decided on at their Quebec parley last summer.

There can be only one meaning to the advance of the Japanese and Indian National forces into Indian territory so far as the United States is concerned. And that is the anti-Axis operations to recapture Burma have been smashed once again, and the situation as regards the reopening of the Burma Route is worse than it was a year ago when General Arnold just about told Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek that her dramatic pleas for assistance were virtually impossible of materialization.

Forced Landings

There is something uncanny in the report a few days ago from Zurich that thirteen four-engined American bombers were "compelled to land" while four others crashed last Saturday in Swiss territory when Swiss anti-aircraft batteries went into action. The forced landings of the American bombers are uncanny because they obviously were on their way back to their base in Italy after bombing localities in Southern Germany. Having successfully weathered the furious defense of the German fighters and ground batteries, it would seem that they would have had little trouble in returning to their Italian base. Certainly, the Swiss anti-aircraft defense could not have been more effective than that of the Germans.

The only logical explanation of the forced landing of the American bombers last Saturday, which was described in the Zurich dispatch as the largest number of aircraft landing in Switzerland in a single day since the outbreak of the war five years ago, is that it was a deliberate action on the part of the crews—deliberate action to get out of the war. Instead of continuing the reckless air warfare directed by their command against the Germans, they preferred to be interned by the Swiss authorities for the duration of the war.

Considering the psychology of the American soldier, the foregoing is not a rash observation. He is in the complete wilderness as to what his country is fighting for, which is natural considering that his government lacks legitimate war aims. All that he is interested is in getting over with the war as soon as possible and returning to his family. That objective is what has made him participate, sometimes keenly, in reckless operations. But when he finds that he is pitted against ever increasing opposition where the results might well be fatal to him and when he finds that there is a way for him to evade it all, he is more than apt to take the latter course. In such a frame of mind, what could be more alluring to the American soldier than a life of safety and ease as an internee in neutral Switzerland? Undoubtedly, that consideration has been the reason for the sporadic forced landings of American aircraft in Switzerland, already aggregating to a considerable figure.

The same consideration applies to frequent forced landings of American bombers in Sweden. Obviously these planes after their sweeps over Germany from their base in England preferred to continue their flight eastward instead of turning about and returning across the English Channel. Well aware of the heavy losses suffered by the American air forces stationed in England and in Italy in their air raids on German cities, these American airmen undoubtedly headed for neutral territory to save their skins while they had the opportunity.

Small wonder then that the United States Army Air Force Training Command has just announced the addition of nine weeks to the individual training period for fighter pilots and five weeks to the schedule for bomber pilots in the nationwide network of flying schools. It is all too apparent that the aim is to put out better fliers with the view of cutting down the heavy losses in the war theaters as a factor to bolster the fast declining morale of the American air forces overseas.

A Year Ago Today

March 26, 1943

Acute shortage of rubber in Britain has reached a critical stage and is now threatening the production of vital war materials. The British Ministry of Supply emphasizing this shortage declared that the nation must try to secure this product by hook or crook. Although the United States, it said, is producing synthetic rubber, the amount it can supply Great Britain is negligible.

* * *

The crew members of the Second Special Submarine Attack Flotilla which accomplished great feats in raiding Diego Suarez Bay, Madagascar, and the port of Sydney were granted citations by the Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Naval Fleet, the Navy Ministry announced today.

* * *

To inform the people of the latest developments of the War of Greater East Asia and other vital news the Japanese Military Administration in Java will install radio towers in all the elementary schools throughout the country. These radios, which have become an integral part of the people's entertainment, will enable the people to listen in to the radio program.

* * *

To adjust the supply and demand of labor and other labor administrative activities in line with the progress of construction operations in Shonan a labor office will be opened there shortly. The new office will act as labor exchange for all unemployed, and it will greatly assist in giving help and advice to the jobless.

A Crucial Test

Recent American Note to Eire on Relations With Axis Nations Little Short of Threat

By MITSUAKI KAKEHI
Written for the Nippon Times

Despite being courteous in wording, the recent American note to Eire concerning the latter's diplomatic relations with Japan and Germany is little short of a threat. It says in part: "As you know from common report, the United Nations' military operations are in preparation in both Britain and Northern Ireland. It is vital that information, from which may be deduced their nature and direction, should not reach the enemy. Not only the success of the operations, but the lives of thousands of the United Nations' troops are at stake. We request, therefore, that the Irish Government would take appropriate steps for the recall of German and Japanese representatives in Ireland." In reality, what is implied in these lines has been clarified by an American propagandist as follows: "Irish soil has served as a base for enemy operations under the status of neutrality. So it now becomes a matter of military necessity to inform Dublin that this situation is not satisfactory. . . . The United States and Great Britain do have weapons to use against Eire. We and the British send part of the food, coal and gasoline used by the Irish; but as yet there is no suggestion of stopping those shipments."

What attracts our particular attention in the propagandist's statement is the term "military necessity." Its import can only be fully grasped when it is taken together with the passage in the above-quoted American note referring to ensuring the success of the military operations and the protection of the lives of the troops. The same term is employed by American Secretary of State Cordell Hull, in his comment on the recent plea of the Pope to spare Rome, for justifying the Anglo-American attack on the Eternal City. "The Allied military authorities in Italy," he says "are dealing primarily with considerations of military necessity forced on them by the German forces. Naturally, we are as much interested as any government or individual in the preservation of religious shrines, historic structures and human lives. If the Germans were not entrenched in these places. . . the question would never have arisen." The same line of thought was expressed more bluntly by American Secretary of War Stimson a few weeks ago when he said: "Every possible precaution has to be taken against the destruction of religious and historical shrines. However, where the enemy makes use of such monuments for military purposes, as in the case of the Mount Cassino Abbey, the safeguarding of the lives of the American troops will have to come first."

Implications of these statements are abundantly clear; the American leaders, accordingly, are justified under the circumstances in bringing pressure to bear upon the neutral country to the point of blackmail or in destroying innocent lives as well as religious and historical edifices of any kind. Furthermore, they are essentially, not the declarations to respect such cultural and religious objects and innocent lives, but excuses for actions unjustifiable except in cases where military necessities demand. The question, however, as to what constitutes military necessities is rather a vexed one, and circumstances considered as such can be determined either broadly or narrowly according to the judgment of the military authorities concerned. We might well leave that to the decision of the international jurist. What interests the lay mind is the fact that when the war situation becomes critical and desperate, military necessity is usually emphasized, as is explained by international jurists, to the extent of claiming an unlimited right. The afore-mentioned American note clearly indicates that Anglo-American military operations on a tremendous scale are imminent. Nor is Churchill's statement in the House of Commons that the British measure to restrict travel to Eire was "the first step in a policy designed to isolate Southern Ireland from the outer world during the critical period approaching" less specific in pointing to the urgency as well as the nature and direction of the military operations now in preparation.

The more we explore the significance of the American statements emphasizing the necessities of war and the safeguarding of the lives of the troops in connection with impending new developments in the war situation in Europe, the clearer can we get an idea of what the Anglo-Saxons have at stake in the coming adventure. In fact, nothing will be more illustrative of the total war than the new phase of the war to be developed in the coming months, and it is not difficult to imagine from the recent statements of their leaders that every available method and means of attack justifiable on the slightest ground morally, legally and by custom will be employed by the Anglo-Americans. Certainly, the total war as in the form it is developing today is altogether a new experience for mankind, in which the strict observance of the established provisions of international law is by no means easy. And it will take some time before the new laws and customs of war are framed by international jurists and agreed upon by the nations of the world. This perplexing situation, however, precludes us in no way from applying the eternal law of humanity to the new methods of warfare, the law which commands, among other things, to save innocent lives under any circumstances.

The American Secretary of War declared, as quoted elsewhere, that "the safeguarding of the lives of the American troops will have to come first." But it does not answer the question fully; the question is whether they are prepared to try to conform to the laws of humanity as well as of nations even under disadvantages for military operations.

Commenting upon the international agreement concerning the laws and customs of war on land, an acknowledged authority on international law once said: "It is essentially a compromise between two principles, one standing for humanity first and the other for victory first." Even if a compromise, it is far better than the total disregard for the law of humanity, indicating as it does man's hard but steady advance toward the realization of higher ideals in the face of grim realities of life. At any rate the time is approaching for a crucial test for the Anglo-Saxons' claims to the guardianship of humanity and civilization. Impending developments in the European war certainly are to be watched with special interest.

Contemporary JAPANESE POEMS

BY ASATARO MIYAMORI

Aki-Ko Niwa (1890-)

A pupil of the late Aki-Ko Yosano, Mrs. Niwa has published two volumes of her poems.

Field Flowers

No no hana wo Ie ni motarasu Kokochi shinu
Uta sukoshi ete Kaeri kuru toki.

When I come back with some poems
Composed while journeying,
I feel as if I had brought home
Some fair field flowers carrying.

The Snow at Nara

Nara no yuki Tabi no kokoro no Yorokobi wo
Ware ni kawarite Mo gotoki kana.

The beautiful snow of Nara
Is fluttering merrily,
As if it were dancing with
My journey's joy for me.

A Run of Happy Days

Moshimo kami Makoto ni ware wo Shirimaseba
Kaku yoki hi nomi Tamawazara mashi.

If the gods had known me
Truly and really,
They never would have bestowed
Such a run of good days on me.

Ben-Ko Uchino (1884-)

A Kobe physician who regularly contributes her verses to the famous magazine "The Camellia."

On Daughter's Nuptial Day

Tobi saran Shiroki kujaku no Kokochi shite
Haha futamekinu Totsugu ko no maé.

Excited and flurried was I
Upon my daughter's nuptial day,
Feeling as if she were a white peacock
Which was about to fly away.

A Great Temple on Mt. Koya

Hikari aru Mono mina irete Imiji kore
Natsu no hajime no Otera no ike.

The pond of the great temple
In early summer is magnificent sight,
Holding in its bosom
All things glittering bright.

Mitsu-Ko Shiga (1885-)

A well-known poetess who teaches Japanese literature at a girls' school.

A Great Keyaki-Tree

Waga ie no Mono no gotoku ni Asa mo yu mo
Nagameshi keyaki Uraru tozo yu.

The great keyaki-tree at which
I look up with joy untold
As if it belonged to my house—
[Alas!] it is said to be sold.

N.B. The keyaki is a kind of oak.

U.S.S.R. RECOGNIZES BADOGLIO REGIME

U.S., Britain Receive No Forewarning of Action

By OUR FOREIGN EDITOR

Like a bolt from the blue came on March 13 the Soviet Union's recognition of the Badoglio regime, according it the status of a full-fledged belligerent government with envoys to be exchanged in the near future.

There are several reasons why this action by the Soviets came as a total surprise as well as a stinging blow to the Anglo-Americans. At the end of last month, Badoglio had demanded recognition of his regime by the two nations, only to be entirely ignored, while his protests against the recent announcement of President Roosevelt that the Italian fleet would be disposed of among the three "allies," Britain, United States and the Soviet Union had likewise fallen on deaf ears.

The Badoglio element in Italy had been a most convenient tool for the "Trojan Horse" landing operation of anti-Axis troops on the heel of the Italian "Boot," but after goading it on to commit its treacherous act, it had been completely left in the lurch, and all its requests thereafter refused. But the Soviet Union thinks differently concerning the Badoglio regime, as indicated by its latest move, thereby clearly disclosing a wide discrepancy of views among the leading anti-Axis countries.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill clarified the British policy of non-recognition of the Badoglio regime in his speech in Parliament on January 22, when he declared that an Italian government on a broader basis would be established after the entry of anti-Axis troops into Rome. At the same time, he referred to the puppet regime as a coffee pot whose handle had been broken, giving a hint of his intention to replace it with some other. Needless to say, Churchill's words have caused the greatest indignation among the partisans of the regime he had so fondly caressed not so long ago.

Forsake Anglo-Americans

But this is not all. Other considerations have prompted Badoglio to forsake the Anglo-Americans and cast his lot with the Soviet Union. The crushing military defeats suffered recently by the anti-Axis forces in South Italy and the subsequent stalemate along the fronts have demonstrated that their troops are no match for the Reich forces in spite of the earlier highly vaunted operations in that theater of war. Similar bunglings by Anglo-Americans in their political maneuvers with regard to Poland, the Baltic nations, the Balkans, Turkey, Egypt, Finland and North Africa, have led to the complete submission to Soviet leadership in the settlement of affairs in most of these regions Thus, viewing the situation, with a practical eye, the Badoglio government saw that it would fare better under the Soviet banner.

Absolute silence has been kept so far by Washington and London concerning the abrupt Soviet announcement, and as in the case with the traitors in North Africa, they will most probably refrain from taking any action and pass the matter by. The London Times, in its editorial on March 14 stated that the Moscow move was characterized by abnormality and was opposed to the British policy toward Badoglio's regime. It deplored the act as establishing a precedent which was likely to give rise to serious future complications. Again, here we see an admission that the anti-Axis camp has no unified policy. The Times' comment certainly betrays the deep-felt dissatisfaction of the Anglo-American camp, and the great blow sustained by them.

In Britain there has recently been manifested an increasingly profound discontent over the domestic as well as diplomatic policies of the Churchill Cabinet which is subjecting it to the danger of a serious schism in national opinion. For instance, 63 members of Parliament belonging to the Liberal, Labor, Commonwealth and Independent Liberal parties have adopted a resolution against the Government's policy of submission to the Soviet Union which is resulting in the actual strangling of the Atlantic Charter. Both Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden are confronted with grave opposition from the public concerning their views of Britain's war aims. Churchill's present personal crisis is a most serious one, as it is giving indication of degrading him from the premiership to the simple leadership of the Conservative Party.

And it is Moscow that is more fully aware of the precarious position of Churchill's political life, and for this reason, the Soviets have recently persistently attached very little importance to him in dealing with European problems except those relating directly to the prosecution of the war against Germany. Even in military matters, Churchill's deferment of the launching of a second front has been a source of irritation if not outright indignation. Thus, it is only too natural that Moscow had not consulted Churchill regarding its recognition of the Badoglio regime.

In this connection, it may also be mentioned here that the Soviets feel on the whole similar sentiments toward President Roosevelt as toward Churchill, Roosevelt being formerly a professed enemy of the Soviet Union. The astonishment with which they received the news of the latest Moscow action is all the more interesting. Their "complete surprise" is likely to be followed by their "thorough confusion."

The Joint Declaration and China

Nanking Fully Resolved to Participate in Prosecution Of War and Building Up of East Asia

By HAYAO UEDA
(From the Shin Toa Keizai)

It is possible to interpret the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asia as a sequel to Japan's China policy since the outbreak of the China Affair. In fact, it is only in this light that we can grasp China's' position in Greater East Asia.

It is generally agreed that the War of Greater East Asia is an extension of the China Affair, in which Japan was forced to take action in self-defense against China's anti-Japanese activities pursued over a long period of years. In the course of its progress, however, the China Affair took on unique aspects as Japan's sacred campaign to help China attain her sovereignty and independence and to establish a New Order in East Asia.

When Japan's efforts in this direction began to take shape through the close cooperation with Manchoukuo and China, however, the Anglo-American nations saw in this development a menace to the old order to which they held fast. So they threw undisguised obstacles athwart Japan's path and eventually provoked the war.

Immediate Cause of War

Such was the immediate cause of the war. The remote cause of both the China Affair and the War of Greater East Asia is rooted in the fact that Japan and China, who were ordained to shoulder the mission of realizing Asia for the Asiatics, failed to comprehend the actualities in East Asia and lived in mutual misunderstanding for a long time. This Sino-Japanese estrangement was engendered, for the most part, by the Anglo-American policy of aggression against East Asia, pursued through their plutocratic power and subtle diplomatic intrigue. Indeed, the situation was such that a clash between Japan and China was inevitable unless their discord could be removed or even a world war made unavoidable unless the aggressive influences of the United States and Britain were extirpated.

With this review of the general background before us, we can readily see that Japan embarked on a logical course in advocating the eradication of Sino-Japanese friction and the construction of a New Order in East Asia purged of Anglo-American influences. It is also easy to understand that, in proclaiming the ideal of building up a region of common prosperity in this part of the world, Japan merely carried her objective of a New Order in East Asia—her original goal in the China Affair—a step further at the dictate of the progress of the situation.

Thus, only when Japan and China have liquidated their past differences and, in close cooperation, succeeded in sweeping out Anglo-American influences from East Asia, can the foundations for the construction of the proposed common prosperity region be laid firmly. In other words, the two nations ought to become the backbone of the common prosperity region and secure the exit for good the century-old Anglo-American rights and interests in East Asia.

Zealous to Liquidate Past

Enough has been said in elucidation of the cause of the China Affair and the War of Greater East Asia. Again, sufficient light has been thrown on the motive actuating Japan's ideal of building up a region of mutual prosperity in East Asia. In the light of this exposition, it is quite possible to understand the significance of such developments in Sino-Japanese relations as have taken place since the outbreak of the China Affair. The fact that Wang Ching-wei deserted Chungking and set up a new regime in Nanking, the participation of the National Government in the war with a vow to share life and death with Japan, the assiduous efforts being expended by that Government for rehabilitation and in fulfilment of China's role as a rear base in the war—these all constitute an unmistakable proof of China's zeal to liquidate her past.

Japan, on her part, has been quick to reciprocate China's sincerity. Already, in the early stage of the China Affair, Japan made it known to the world that her war was not for conquest or exploitation. She has lent, and is still lending, unstinted aid to the National Government for its consolidation. In particular, the series of ethically-conceived moves which she has made since January 9, 1943, such as the retrocession of the concessions and the relinquishment of extraterritorial rights, have enabled China to attain her long-cherished aspiration to rid herself of unequal international treaties. Again, Japan has steadily been adjusting extraordinary situations existing in the occupied areas.

Marking the first stage of the new epoch in Sino-Japanese relations was the conclusion of the Basic Treaty on November 30, 1940.

Fundamental Changes Introduced

Then came the War of Greater East Asia. The huge military exploits scored by the Imperial Japanese Forces have introduced fundamental changes in the situation in East Asia. Thailand has recovered her lost territory, Burma and the Philippines have achieved the glory of independence, pacts of alliance have been concluded between Japan and Burma and between Japan and the Philippines, the native inhabitants of Java, Sumatra and Borneo have been granted participation in government and the Provisional Government of Azad Hind has been established. These developments, combined with the eradication of Sino-Japanese misunderstanding, spell the fulfilment of the basic conditions for the creation of a common prosperity region in Greater East Asia.

Here the Sino-Japanese Basic Treaty satisfactorily performed its historic mission. A stage was now reached where the ties binding Japan and China as the mainstay of Greater East Asia had to be bolstered and fitted to the fresh developments referred to above. This requirement was met by the conclusion of the Pact of Alliance between the two countries on October 30 last year.

The Pact established a basis for permanent amity between the two countries. It is also proof that China, having regained her sovereignty and independence, is fully qualified for participation in the defense of Greater East Asia and in the work of construction.

In the meantime, the other nations of Greater East Asia, like Manchoukuo, Thailand and the newly born States of Burma and the Philippines had shown themselves to be equal to collaboration with Japan in the prosecution of the war and in the building up of Greater East Asia.

Consolidate Into One

With the foundation for a Greater East Asiatic political front thus completed, the nations of Greater East Asia, naturally, voiced a demand that the Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations be convened in Tokyo on November 5 and 6 last.

In the light of the developments leading up to the opening of the Assembly, one can readily see that the event was a sequel to Japan's China policy consistently followed since the occurrence of the China Affair. The event also served to show how important China's position is in Greater East Asia.

Let us now consider what significance the Joint Declaration adopted at the Assembly has to China. The five principles of the Declaration can be said to epitomize in a clear-cut and concise manner the Sino-Japanese Basic Treaty, the Japan-Manchoukuo-China Joint Declaration, the Sino-Japanese Joint Declaration and the Sino-Japanese Pact of Alliance.

As a party to the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asia, China, as President Wang Ching-wei has said, is now treading a path of light in step with all the East Asiatics and takes a definite part in the construction of Greater East Asia.

The Joint Declaration, then, is at once an expression of China's resolve to shoulder the task of prosecuting the war and of building up Greater East Asia in common with all the nations of East Asia.

Since the outbreak of the China Affair, Japan and the National Government at Nanking have seized every opportunity to urge reflection by Chungking, and it is well known that influential Chungking people have been walking over to the Nanking camp in increasing numbers. This is as it should be, seeing that the men in the Chungking camp, themselves devotees to the cause preached by Dr. Sun, cannot but be impressed by the restoration of Sino-Japanese relations to their true form. Now that happy relations such as subsist between Japan and China have been extended throughout East Asia with the proclamation of the Joint Declaration, the foundations have been laid solidly for the realization of the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Pan-Asianism. Such an auspicious and significant development cannot fail to move the Chungking camp as nothing else has done.